

Global experts and leaders convene for Vatican climate summit

By Thaddeus Jones: 15 May 2024

Experts and leaders from around the world are meeting at the Vatican for a Summit looking at the climate crisis affecting the planet with a special focus on how to effectively manage and deal with it. The Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences are hosting the three-day Summit entitled, "From Climate Crisis to Climate Resilience."

The Summit participants acknowledge the seriousness of the climate crisis the world is facing and how it will deepen over the next few decades as global warming rises past the 1.5° Celsius danger threshold by the early 2030s. This concept looks at how humanity can manage, adapt, and survive the extreme effects of climate change for a safer, healthier, more equitable, and sustainable world.

The Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Sciences, the only supranational academy of its kind in the world, has as its mission "to honour pure science wherever it may be found, ensure its freedom and encourage research for the progress of science." The climate resilience concept is at the core of the three-day summit's discussions that aim to implement a three-point strategy: mitigation efforts to diminish climate risks; adaptation strategies to cope with inevitable risks; and societal transformation that fosters ongoing mitigation and adaptation measures.

The Summit participants will focus on related environmental challenges such as, climate change, biodiversity loss, and global inequality, while discussing and proposing solutions and approaches to manage and mitigate the effects of these realities. The Summit's organizers know this requires a multi-disciplinary approach and partnerships involving researchers, engineers, entrepreneurs, scientific experts, community and faith leaders, NGOs, and the wider public.

These efforts will culminate at the Summit's conclusion with a Planetary Climate Resilience protocol signed by all the participants. Like the Montreal Protocol, the document will provide guidelines and actions for climate resilience. The protocol will then be submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to be shared with nations worldwide.

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *Laudate Deum*, Pope Francis, underscored the dangers the world faces due to the impact of climate change, affecting the most vulnerable people especially, as well as the urgent need to work together to address the crisis.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2024-05/global-experts-and-leaders-convene-for-vatican-climate-summit.html>